

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY COMING TO RICHMOND WITH MANY IMPORTANT BILLS

society event, and many prominent men and women will probably attend the ceremony.

Immediately following the organization of the two houses of the General Assembly, the following bills will be introduced in both. This paper is awaited with great interest, as it is known to deal with many matters of sweeping moment to the people of the State.

Preliminary Matters.
Beyond the formal ceremonies incident to the organization of the body and the introduction of a few bills and resolutions, the Legislature will transact but little business on the opening day.

Indeed, the first week of the session will be largely devoted to preliminary matters, to the introduction of volumes of bills, and the appointment and organization of the standing committees. A joint caucus will be held in the meanwhile for the election of State officers and judges, and the preliminary fights over these positions are already growing warm. First Auditor Marye, Second Auditor Daw and Public Printer Davis bottom will be re-elected without opposition.

A fight is on for Register of the Land Office between the incumbent, Colonel John W. Richardson, and Mr. H. A. Marshall, of Charlottesville. Each claims that he will win by a safe lead in the State, though both are working hard to secure more pledges.

There are a number of judgeship contests, but the one attracting the widest attention is from Roanoke city, where Messrs. Roy B. Smith and Waller R. Hines are against each other for judge of the Corporation Court.

May Go Over.
Judge John W. Woods, the incumbent, has declined a re-election, and the race between the gentlemen who desire to succeed him is growing warmer every day. Senator Hartman, Mr. Hines and Delegate Hartman for his law partner, Mr. Staples. Mr. Hart has just been operated upon for appendicitis, and it is probable that the matter will be deferred until he is able to reach the city.

There are several circuit judgeships to be filled, but they do not seem to have provoked any very sharp contests up to this time. A number of members of both branches, candidates and friends of candidates, are already on the ground, and by to-night the lobbying will be going on with increased vigor. Measures have been prepared and will be offered early in the session upon many of the most important matters affecting the interests of the State.

Perhaps those general subjects which will receive the most earnest consideration and be acted upon most promptly are taxation, public schools, pensions, roads and the keeping of the State's accounts.

Important Matters.
The Times-Dispatch sent out inquiries to the members-elect some time ago as to the most earnest consideration and be acted upon most promptly are taxation, public schools, pensions, roads and the keeping of the State's accounts.

It is not believed, however, that there will be any effort to pass a general prohibition law, that if there is any liquor legislation, it will be along the lines of high license, and social club regulation. The appropriations for schools, roads and pensions will undoubtedly be increased, and nearly all the State, and many of the local institutions are asking for more money. A new State building is a strong possibility, and there will be heavy drains

upon the treasury from many other sources.

The question of adopting a better system of laying and collecting taxes is one, and will have early attention, though it is a question of long range to create the office of traveling auditor and to establish a uniform system of bookkeeping in all departments where the State's money is handled.

Recommendations looking to this latter feature will come in a report of the special auditing committee named at the last session, which has been prepared with great care, and which will be presented at an early date.

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render substantial support to all the State institutions. I think the present General Assembly should pass a law distributing the railroad corporations among the cities and counties through which the railroad lines pass, for purposes of taxation, and for the purpose of providing for the betterment of the State's money is handled.

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Don P. Halsey, Lynchburg.—The proposed revision of the Constitution will call for action on many important subjects. Among these, the subjects of taxation, public schools, pensions, roads and the keeping of the State's money is handled.

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Further invasion of State rights by the Federal Government.

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In respect to public schools, the most important measure which will be introduced in the kind and quality of instruction furnished in the rural schools, and to the introduction of the normal school system by requiring certain of the high schools to maintain a normal school course. The present property assessment laws in their practical operation are unduly burdensome to the farmers of the State and to certain classes of our citizens. Some method of consolidating assessments of real and personal property should be adopted and enforced.

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